

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARAMA 00679 022302Z

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 JUSE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07

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FM AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2769

INFO AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

UNCLAS PARAMARIBO 0679

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: EINV, NS

SUBJ: REPORTS OF ALCOA AND REYNOLDS PAYMENTS ABROAD

REF : PARAMARIBO 0673

1. IN RESPONSE TO INTERPELLATION ENTERED IN PARLIAMENT BY PNR MEMBER FRED DERBY, MINISTER OF JUSTICE AND POLICE HOOST HAS SAID HIS MINISTRY, THROUGH MEANS OF ITS INTERNATIONAL CONTACTS, IS LOOKING INTO THE MATTER FURTHER WITH A VIEW TOWARD DECIDING WHETHER SUFFICIENT GROUNDS EXIST TO INSTITUTE A JUDICIAL INVESTIGATION.

2. IN RELATED DEVELOPMENT, HEAD OF SURALCO'S PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICE IS QUOTED IN DE WARE TIJD OF JULY 31 AS SAYING SURALCO WISHES STAY OUT OF AFFAIR OF THE SO-CALLED BRIBES. HE IS ALSO SAID TO HAVE DECLARED THAT SURALCO'S POLICY UNTIL NOW HAS BEEN NOT TO PAY ANY BRIBES. OTHERS WHO WERE ASKED TO COMMENT, INCLUDING MEMBERS OF THE PRESENT GOVERNING COALITION AND FORMER CABINET MEMBERS, REPORTEDLY PREFERRED TO AWAIT THE ANSWER OF THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE AND POLICE TO DERBY'S INTERPELLATION.

3. UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION OF HOOST'S LETTER TO PARLIAMENT CHAIRMAN AS REPORTED IN JULY 31 PRESS AS FOLLOWS:

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QUOTE: WITH REFERENCE TO THE QUESTIONS RAISED IN
PARLIAMENT BY MEMBER MR. FRED DERBY IN CONNECTION WITH SO
CALLED BRIBES, I HAVE THE HONOR TO INFORM YOU THAT THE
REPORTS WHICH APPEARED ABOUT THEM IN THE LOCAL AND INTER-
NATIONAL PRESS HAVE ALSO ATTRACTED MY ATTENTION. IT HAS
ALREADY BEEN DECIDED IN MY MINISTRY, AFTER AMPLE DISCUSSION
OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES THAT--AS STATED IN THE CONCERNED REPORTS--
IT IS NOT OUT OF THE QUESTION THAT ALSO IN SURINAM MONIES HAVE
BEEN PAID BY THE ALCOA AND REYNOLDS ALUMINUM COMPANIES FOR
IMPROPER PURPOSES, TO GATHER FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE
THINGS MENTIONED THROUGH OUR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS. ON THE
BASIS OF THIS INFORMATION, IT SHALL BE DECIDED WHETHER
SUFFICIENT GROUNDS ARE PRESENT FOR A JUDICIAL INVESTIGATION OF
ACTIONS COMMITTED BY THE NAMED AND OTHER MULTINATIONALS.
CONSEQUENTLY, THE QUESTIONS RAISED BY MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT DERBY
CANNOT YET BE GONE INTO. AS SOON AS I HAVE OBTAINED SUFFICIENT
INFORMATION, THE QUESTIONS RAISED WILL BE ANSWERED IMMEDIATELY.
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ZURHELLEN

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